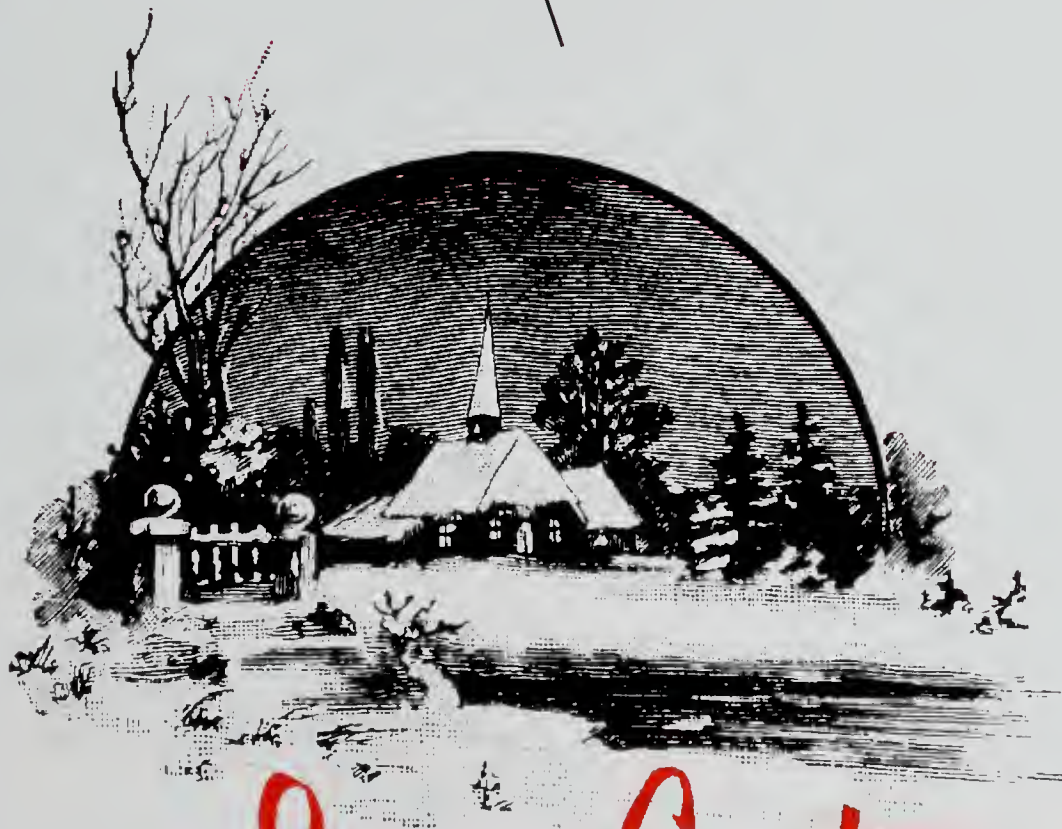




N.O.W. News

Vol. 47 No. 4

Winter 2010



Season's Greetings

Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

Numismatists of Wisconsin holds Life Memberships in the American Numismatic Association and Central States Numismatic Society.

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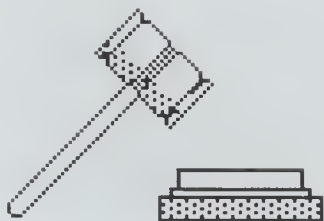
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1

website www.numismatistsofwisconsin.org



President's Message

Holiday Greetings Fellow Numismatists!

November has come and gone and that meant time changes, cooler weather and Old Man Winter right around the corner.

For quite some time NOW governor, Mike Tramte has been working on a listing of his Lumber Tokens. He has published a copy (enclosed) for each of you.

This past year we have seen our battered economy slowly going through the motions of recovery. The stock market has been manic/depressive and gold and silver prices

have been going through the roof with no end in sight.

NOW also celebrated its 55th anniversary in Iola. I know that a lot of our members attended and enjoyed that show and just as a reminder, the 56th year, 2011, will be featuring the NOW show in Oshkosh.

Our membership has remained constant this past year -- not a poor showing in a bad economy. To me, it shows the value of your NOW membership to the hobby. You are receiving a dues notice in this mailing. Please return it promptly to ensure that you won't miss the spring issue of NOW News.

I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving and hope you will have a blessed Hanukkah and Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Thad



**Oshkosh
Convention Center**

**2 North Main Street
Oshkosh, WI**

**Hosted by
Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC**

**Contact: Randy Miller
P.O. Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903
Phone: 920-231-6161**



Fight Back -- Support H.R. 5141

The American Numismatic Association urges collectors and dealers to contact members of Congress and ask for the repeal of a law that could significantly increase the paperwork burden on dealers and increase the risk of identity theft for all collectors who buy and sell numismatic material.

Under Section 9006 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly known as health care reform legislation, businesses will be required to report all purchases of goods and services in excess of \$600 per year on an IRS 1099 form.

While the legislation applies to all types of businesses, an unusual burden would be placed on numismatic dealers who, unlike most enterprises, buy goods and services from each other and their retail clients. Dealers would be required to gather personal information on all clients who sell them goods or services totaling more than \$600, including names, addresses and Social Security numbers.

“All dealers will be disproportionately and unfairly impacted by this legislation,” says ANA Executive Director, Larry Shepherd. “As a former dealer, I can see how a small to medium-sized dealer could easily be required to submit 1,000 or more 1099s in a typical year, at very significant cost. In addition, all collectors would be forced to give out personal information that would increase the possibility of identity theft. This section of the health care reform bill is a nightmare for everyone in this hobby.

Shepherd cautions the numismatic community that this is not a new tax, but rather a method by which the IRS can collect information in hope that more taxpayers will report taxable income. The assumption is that the new regulation would generate about \$17 billion over 10 years, increasing tax revenue to cover some of the costs of health care reform.

Rep. Daniel Lungren (R-California) has introduced H.R. 5141 “The Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act,” which would repeal this part of the health care reform act, and Senator Mike Johanns (R-Nebraska) has introduced a companion bill – S.357. Both bills will likely need more co-sponsors. ANA urges everyone to contact their Representatives and urge them to sign on to H.R. 5141 and to contact their Senators and urge them to sign on to S. 3578.

ANA has posted sample letters from dealers and collectors on their website (www.money.org) or call the U.S. Capitol at 202-224-3121.

National Coin Week April 17-23, 2011

[reprinted from Numismatic News]

With the Civil War sesquicentennial next year, the ANA has selected the theme “Blue, Gray and Greenbacks” for 2011 National Coin Week. The beginning of the observance will be almost on the anniversary date of the 1861 Fort Sumter bombardment, which began the war.

Beginning in March, weekly clues and questions will be distributed by ANA online every Monday, challenging individuals to hunt for numismatic objects and answers. These will take them on a virtual tour of battlefields and other important places.

Clubs can take part in a competition in March and April. Students will be encouraged to create coin and note designs honoring the war and the people who experienced it. Prizes will be awarded for individual, club and student activities.

Visit www.money.org for more information.



The club's 76th anniversary banquet was held October 23rd at Alioto's. Guest speaker was Jim Downey, a numismatist from the Sturgeon Bay area who gave an illustrated presentation about paper scrip used during the Great Depression.

* * *

Racine Numismatic Society

In celebration of the club's 800th meeting, members enjoyed dinner at the Castlewood Restaurant on September 9th. Bill Spencer spoke about his trip to Russia. Many door prizes were given away and everyone in attendance received a prize of Russian Rubles.

* * *

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

The 75th annual MNS coin show was held October 3rd at Serb Hall. President Leon Saryan thanked Tom Casper, Dave Hunsicker and all the members who helped out that led to another successful show. With gold and silver at near record highs, attendance by the general public was excellent. The display area showed renewed excitement and vitality with some excellent exhibits. Setting up an educational display which reflects understanding of basic numismatic concepts, in-depth knowledge, numismatic teaching, careful research and aesthetic creativity is hard work, but is also immensely rewarding.

Bruce Benoit entertained the club at one of their meetings with a game of "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grade Collector." Several YN were the "5th Graders" with Leon Saryan, Bob Korosec and Joe Paonessa chosen as contestants. All participants received an award and pictures were taken.

Special thanks was extended to Cliff Mishler for accepting the ANA 75-year Service Award plaque on behalf of MNS at the Boston ANA convention.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Club

The annual coin show of the Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Club was held August 7th at the Siren Senior Center in Siren, WI.



Their 2010 wooden nickel features an otter and is done in black ink on both sides. It is available for 50¢ plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Send your request to Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club, c/o Gary Schauls, 2702 150th Street, Luck, WI 54853-3811.

* * *

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

A photo of Wausau Coin Club's 2010 officers was sent to your editor by Gene Johnson shortly before he and Irene became California "snow birds" again.



shown l-r Dave Goslin (treasurer), Terry Kafka (vice president), Gene Johnson (last living Charter member), Thad Streeter (president) and Mike Rolling (financial secretary).

South Shore Coin Club

The club has been busy planning meetings for the next couple of months. President Joe Bartoszewicz indicated that the October meeting was the last time members could exhibit numismatic items at the meeting until February. In November, Neil Shafer answered questions pertaining to his request for a donation for the publication of his book. On December 14th club members will hold their annual Christmas party and in January Tom Casper will be presenting a program on Milwaukee tokens.

Madison Coin Club

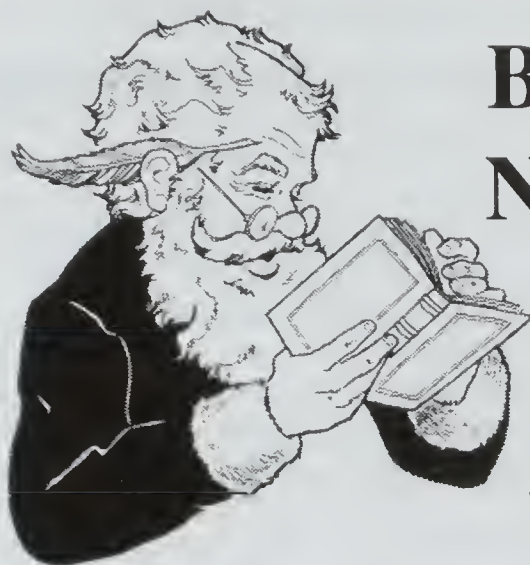
At the October meeting, which was held at the Alicia Ashman Branch of the Madison Public Library, members viewed a video and learned about slabbing coins.



Holly is a Winter Classic

Folklore has linked the lush, red-berried plant with Christmas celebrations for centuries, and long before that, with ancient Roman harvest festivals.

Today we still love the sight of holly's cheerful colors peeking out from a snowy landscape, or holly trimmings shaped into festive wreaths or garlands for the holidays. And happily, thanks to the versatility of the plant and the sheer abundance of it at florist shops at this time of year, there's no need to be without holly no matter where you live.



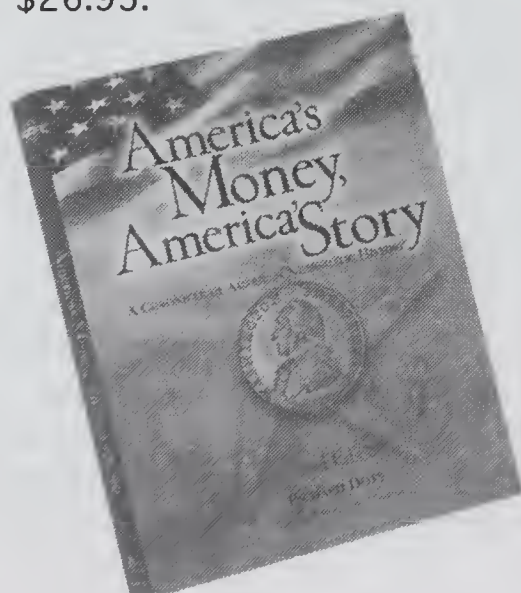
Book Nook

America's Money, America's Story

A Chronicle of American Numismatic History
by Richard Doty, forward by Q. David Bowers.

When you learn about the money of the United States of America, you learn the story of how our nation came to be... and catch a glimpse of where it's headed. This is a book for everyone who loves the drama, romance, and exciting twists and turns of American history – from the pre-European days of beaver-pelt money to today's world of gold bullion and Presidential dollars.

This 224-page, hard cover book includes many photos from the Smithsonian's National Numismatic Collection and can be purchased from Whitman books.com for \$26.95.



*Books
Make
Great
Christmas
Gifts*

Money of the Civil War – Set Two

Money of the Civil War-Replica Coins from the War between the States. Colorful and educational card includes high-quality replicas of coins from the time of the Civil War. The set includes the Indian Head cent and a Civil War token. The card opens up to reveal historical information and photographs from the era. Laminated Paper Board sells for \$4.95 from Whitman books.

* * *

Guide Book of U.S. Currency

4th Edition

Hobby legend Kenneth Bressett covers large-size, small-size, and fractional paper money in the newly-revised and updated 4th edition of United States Currency.

For the first time, this popular book is illustrated in color. United State Currency is a perennial favorite among hobbyists. It appeals especially to beginning and intermediate collectors, but its solid and engaging numismatic text (written by the long-time editor of the Guide Book of United States Coins) is valuable for long-time collectors and dealers as well.

Features include market values in up to 7 grades. Each note identified by the hobby standard Friedberg number - Historical information on every note series - Advice on how to collect and store paper money - Grading instructions - Guidance on detecting counterfeits - Special sections on valuable varieties, uncut sheets, error notes, and more. This 6x9" softcover, full cover book includes 352 pages. Cost \$18.95.

* * *

2011 Blue Book of U.S. Coins

(paperback \$9.95)

Since 1942 coin dealers have used the Official Blue Book of United States Coins to make buying offers. You can use it to find out how much your coins are worth.



**What's
New?**

Federal Reserve Delays Issue Date of Redesigned \$100 Note

On October 1st, the Federal Reserve Board announced a delay in the issue date of the redesigned \$100 note. This new design incorporates cutting edge, anti-counterfeiting technologies and the Federal Reserve imposes strict quality controls to ensure that users of the U.S. currency around the world receive the highest quality notes.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing manufactures Federal Reserve notes and has identified a problem with sporadic creasing of the paper during printing of the new \$100 note, which was not apparent during extensive pre-production testing. As a consequence, the Federal Reserve will not have sufficient inventories to begin distributing the new notes as planned.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is working to resolve this problem, and the Federal Reserve Board will announce a new issue date for the redesigned note as soon as possible. The originally scheduled issue date was February 10, 2011.

[ref. NewMoney.gov)

* * *

2011 Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Program

[U.S. Mint}

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. It is presented to a person who distinguishes him or herself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his or her life above and beyond the call of duty while:

- * engaged in action against an enemy of the U.S.
- * engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or
- * serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

The Medal of Honor was first authorized by Congress in 1861 as the Navy's highest personal decoration, with the Army Medal of Honor authorized in 1862 and the Air Force Medal of Honor in 1956. The medals are presented by the President in the name of Congress. Fewer than 3,500 Medals of Honor have ever been awarded.

The "Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009" was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama on November 6, 2009. It authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue up to 100,000 gold \$5 and up to 500,000 silver \$1 coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861.

The act calls for the designs to be emblematic of the traditions, legacy and heritage of the Medal of Honor and the distinguished service of its recipients. As authorized, the United States Mint shall produce \$5 gold and \$1 silver coins in both proof and uncirculated qualities. Surcharges in the amount of \$35 for each gold coin and \$10 for each silver coin are authorized to be paid to the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation.

The foundation assists in perpetuating the legacy of the Medal of Honor by funding programs to promote the ideals of courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism among the American public.

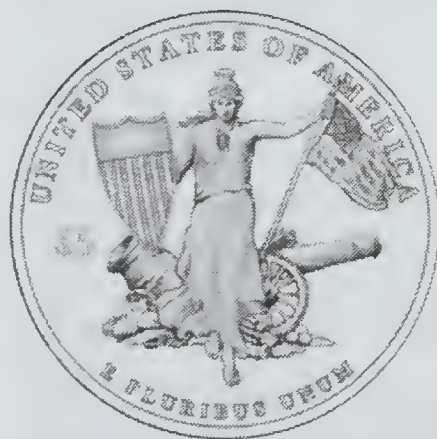
The Designs

\$5 Gold Coin

Gold obverse depicts the original Medal of Honor authorized by Congress in 1861 as the Navy's highest personal decoration. The inscriptions are LIBERTY, 1861, 2011, IN GOD WE TRUST and MEDAL OF HONOR.



*2011 Medal of Honor
Commemorative
\$5 Gold Coin Obverse*

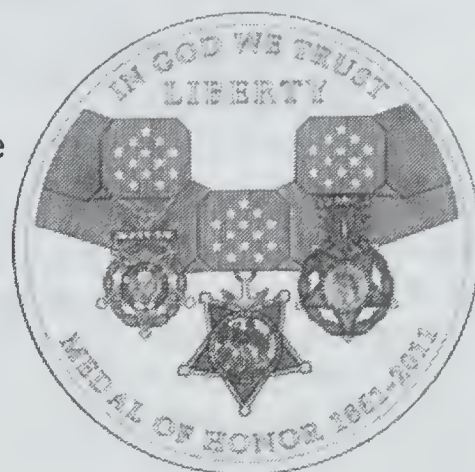


*2011 Medal of Honor
Commemorative \$5
Gold Coin Reverse*

Gold reverse features Minerva, based on the common central image on both the original Navy and Army Medals of Honor. Minerva standing with a shield representing the Army and Navy in her right hand and the Union flag in her left hand, is flanked by a field artillery cannon and wheel of the Civil War era. Inscriptions are UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, \$5 and E PLURIBUS UNUM. The gold coin designs are emblematic of the heritage and legacy of the original Medal of Honor and the era in which it was first established.

\$1 Silver Coin

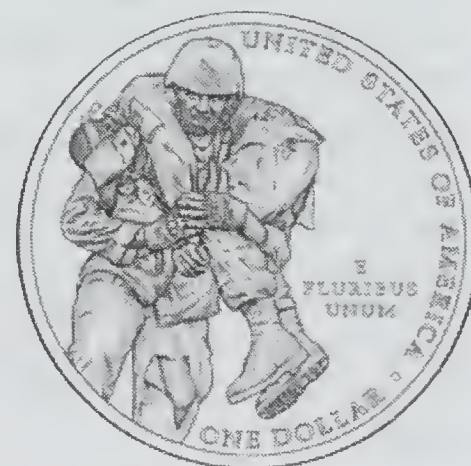
Silver obverse depicts the three current Army, Navy and Air Force Medals of Honor, left to right.



*2011 Medal
of Honor
Commemorative
Silver Dollar Obverse*

The ribbon with field of stars in the center is the common feature of all three medals, reflecting the joint nature of modern era warfare and the fact that the Medal of Honor is the only U.S. military medal worn around the neck. Inscriptions are LIBERTY, IN GOD WE TRUST, MEDAL OF HONOR, and 1861-2011.

*2011 Medal of Honor
Commemorative
Silver Dollar Reverse*



Silver reverse depicts a contemporary infantry soldier carrying a wounded soldier to safety under enemy fire, reflecting the courage and self-sacrifice of all Medal of Honor recipients.

Inscriptions are UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ONE DOLLAR and E PLURIBUS UNUM. This image conveys the courage, selfless sacrifice and patriotism of Medal of Honor recipients, as well as the criteria established by Congress in 1963 requiring that all Medals of Honor be awarded only for heroic action in combat.

Northwest Territorial Mint to Preserve and Grow Legacy of Iconic Minting Company

{ref. Northwest Territorial Mint website}

The world famous Medallic Art Company, whose work in medals over the last century has included that of renowned sculptors such as James Earl Fraser (the Buffalo nickel), Victor David Brenner (the Lincoln Cent) and Augustus Saint-Gaudens (the “double eagle” coin), has moved into the next chapter of its 106-year-old history.

The legendary company, responsible for reproducing bas-relief masterpieces by American Masters of Sculpting as well as producing prestigious medals such as the Pulitzer Prize, Congressional Medal of Honor, and inaugural medals for numerous U.S. presidents, has come under the management of Northwest Territorial Mint. Northwest Territorial Mint, recognized in its own right as one of the finest private mints in the country, will preserve and build upon the legacy and quality of work that has given Medallic Art world-wide acclaim.

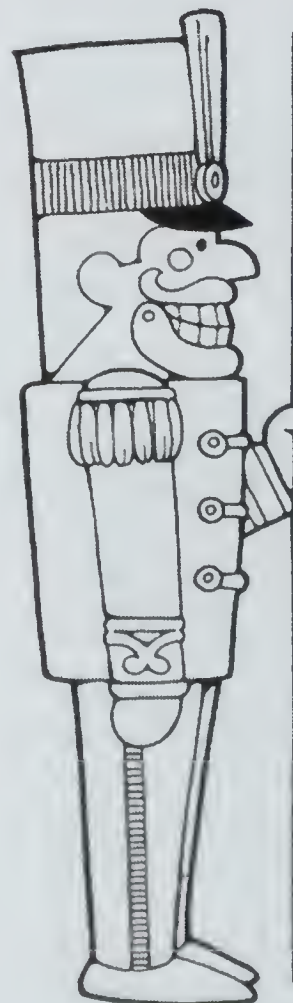
Northwest Territorial Mint CEO Ross Hansen said “This is truly a case of the sum being greater than its parts. Combining the knowledge and prestige of Medallic Art with Northwest Territorial Mint’s proven minting expertise will allow us to be the clear choice for customers looking for world-class minted products.”

Since 1984, Northwest Territorial Mint has specialized in designing and creating custom coins, medallions, and related items of the highest craftsmanship for individuals and institutions worldwide. Its coins have been handed out by the Commander in Chief, the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and many other high-ranking military officers and elected officials. Its commemorative coins are available at Navy, Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard

exchanges, and it is licensed to create and sell for many iconic American organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, Harley Davidson, and the National Rifle Association.

Northwest Territorial Mint operates in six locations across the country, including the Medallic Art facility in Dayton, NV. The locations include corporate offices and minting facility in Auburn, Washington as well as a sales office and die-cutting facility in Green Bay, Wisconsin, a sales office in Springfield, VA and a retail store in the Pentagon.

Pass this warning on to all your PC friends



Beware of Holiday Viruses

The newest virus circulating is the UPS/Fed EX/USPS Delivery Failure.

You may receive an e-mail from UPS, Federal Express or USPS, along with a packet number, saying they were unable to deliver a package sent to you on such-and-such a date. It then asks you to print out a copy of the attached invoice.

**DON'T TRY TO PRINT
THIS.... IT LAUNCHES THE
VIRUS.**

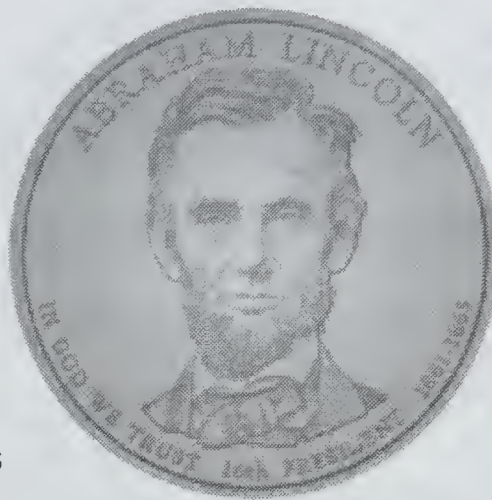
This virus has caused millions of dollars in damage in the past few days.

Presidential \$1 Coin Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th U.S. President, was born February 12, 1809, near Hodgenville, KY, into a poor frontier family. A self-taught lawyer, he also served in the Illinois legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives in 1858. While campaigning for a seat in the U.S. Senate Lincoln engaged incumbent Stephen A. Douglas in a series of debates over slavery. Though he lost the election, Lincoln's eloquence won him national attention, and in 1860, he received the Republican Presidential nomination. Lincoln became President of the United States in 1861 as the Nation descended into the Civil War.

While he was President, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed the slaves living in the Confederacy. Although the Confederate States ignored the proclamation, it allowed Union soldiers to free slaves they found in the South and recruit them into their army. By the time the Civil War ended, one out of eight members of the Union Army were black.

On November 19, 1863, he delivered his famous Gettysburg Address. His example of assuming sole authority during a time of war was followed by later Presidents, including Woodrow Wilson in World War I and Franklin Roosevelt in World War II. While the Civil War and efforts to abolish slavery dominated his presidency, Lincoln also signed into law the Homestead Act, which made it possible for poor people to buy land provided they agreed to settle and work there for at least 5 years. This law began the settlement of the American West.



**16th President
1861-1865**

On April 14, 1865 – only a few weeks into his second administration and just as the Civil War was ending – Lincoln was shot by Southern sympathizer John Wilkes Booth, and died the next morning in Washington, DC.

Coinage Legislation under President Lincoln

Act of April 21, 1862, authorized a U.S. Mint facility at Denver;

Act of March 3, 1863, authorized a U.S. Mint facility at Carson City, Nevada;

Act of April 22, 1864, amended Act of February 21, 1857, so that "... all laws now in force relating to the coins of the United States... be extended to the coinage herein authorized... for the security of the coin, regulating and guarding the process of striking and coining, for preventing debasement or counterfeiting, or for any other purpose..."

Act of June 8, 1864, punished and prevented the counterfeiting of coins in the United States;

Act of March 3, 1865, authorized coinage of the 3-cent piece.

United States Mint Directors Appointed by President Lincoln

James Pollock of Pennsylvania May 1861
– September 1866.

First Spouse Gold Coin

Mary Todd Lincoln

First Lady 1861-1865

The Mary Todd Lincoln First Spouse Gold Coin in proof condition is the last of four First Spouse coins that will be issued in 2010. It also marks the 17th for the series as a whole since it started in 2007.

Mary Todd Lincoln was born on December 13, 1818, in Lexington, KY. It was here that she cultivated her love for politics. Later, in Springfield, IL, she met Abraham Lincoln and they married in 1842.

Mary would prove to be a loving and supportive wife of Abraham Lincoln long before his election to the Presidency. Even with the loss of a son, she still pushed him to pursue his political dreams.

When her husband was first elected to Congress in 1847, Mary directed all her energy into helping advance his career and ultimately his bid for the presidency. After Lincoln became President in 1861, Mary served enthusiastically as his confidant and advisor. Their time in the White House could hardly be considered merry. After all, it was during the American Civil War. Also, the couple lost another son while there. Still, Mary was seen as compassionate and she hosted public receptions at the White House, which she called “handshake days”, on which hundreds of people, including blacks, would crowd into the East Room to greet her and the President. She visited wounded Union soldiers, bringing them food, books and flowers and writing letters to relatives on their behalf.

After witnessing the assassination of her husband in March 1865, she spent the rest of her life in mourning. Mary retired to Hyde Park, IL and spent several summers abroad with her surviving children. She died peacefully in 1882.



The coin’s obverse (heads side), designed by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Phebe Hemphill, features a likeness of Mary Todd Lincoln with the inscriptions “MARY TODD LINCOLN, IN GOD WE TRUST, LIBERTY, 2010, 16TH AND 1861-1865”.

The reverse designed by Artistic Infusion Program Master Designer Joel Iskowitz, depicts Mary Todd Lincoln bringing wounded Union soldier flowers and books.

[U.S. Mint and WorldMintCoins.com]

Beware Cardsharps

{Consumer Reports}

Thieves look for gift cards with preloaded values displayed on racks in grocery and department stores. Using a hand-held scanner, they’ll read the code behind the magnetic or scratch-off strip. That, with a number on the card’s front, gives them what they need to go online and buy stuff. When a shopper later buys the card and tries to use it, it has been drained of its value.

Solution:
Buy a card kept behind a customer-service desk or ask the clerk to scan it to

make sure it has the full value. Check that the strip on the back looks new; and keep the receipt.



The Grand Canyon National Park Quarter

[U.S. Mint]

The Grand Canyon National Park quarter is the fourth of 2010 and the fourth overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters Program.



A powerful and inspiring landscape, the Grand Canyon overwhelms the senses through its immense size -- 277 river miles long, up to 18 miles wide and a mile deep. The Grand Canyon was first established as a national site on February 20, 1893.

The reverse image features a view of the granaries above the Nankoweap Delta in Marble Canyon near the Colorado River. (Marble Canyon is the northernmost section of the Grand Canyon). These granaries were used for storing food and seeds between 1050 and 1150 A.D.). Inscriptions are GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA, 2010 and E PLURIBUS UNUM. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Grand Canyon National Park.

National Park Quarters Hard to Find

During recessions, cash-strapped consumers raid their piggy banks and other sources of loose change. That puts more old coins into the system, reducing demand for new ones.

That appears to be what's happening now. As of August, the Federal Reserve had 3.2 billion quarters in inventory, which is sufficient to meet estimated demand for the next four years. "The Fed is holding a whole lot of inventory, and banks aren't demanding it" said Mint spokesman Michael White.

The Mount Hood National Forest Quarter

The Mount Hood National Forest quarter is the fifth of 2010 and the fifth overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters Program.

Located 20 miles east of Portland, Oregon, which lies in the northern part of the Willamette River Valley, Mount Hood National Forest extends south from the strikingly beautiful Columbia River Gorge across more than 60 miles of forested mountains, lakes and streams to the Olallie Scenic Area. The forest encompasses more than one million acres. Two of its many highlights are the Timberline Lodge, a national historic landmark in its own right, and the Clackamas Wild and Scenic River. Mount Hood was first established as a national site on September 28, 1893.

The reverse image depicts a view of Mount Hood with Lost Lake in the foreground.

Inscriptions are MOUNT HOOD, OREGON, 2010 and E PLURIBUS UNUM. Design candidates

were developed in consultation with representatives of Mount Hood National Forest.



Mount Hood is more than 500,000 years old. The volcano has grown in fits and starts, with decades to centuries of frequent eruptions separated by quiet periods lasting from centuries to more than 10,000 years.

Mount Hood has had two significant eruption periods -- One about 1500 years ago and the other about 200 years ago. Its last major eruption occurred in the 1790's, not long before Lewis & Clark's expedition to the

Pacific Northwest. In the mid-1800's, local residents reported minor explosive activity, but since that time the volcano has been quiet.

Someday, however, Mount Hood will erupt again. What will those eruptions be like and how will they affect us? Scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey are studying the volcano's past eruptive behavior to better anticipate and prepare for future eruptive activity.

Unlike its neighbor to the north, Mount St. Helens, Mount Hood does not have a history of violent explosive eruptions. Instead, lava flows rarely traveling more than 6 to 8 miles from their source, have built up the flanks of the volcano one sector at a time. Sometimes, instead of flowing slowly downhill, lava piles up over its vent forming a lava dome many hundreds of feet high. On the steep upper slopes of Mt. Hood, growing lava domes have repeatedly collapsed to form extremely hot, fast-moving pyroclastic flows. Few of these flows have traveled more than 8 miles. But because they are extremely hot, such flows can melt significant quantities of snow and ice to produce lahars that flow down river valleys, often far beyond the flanks of the volcano. Over the past 30,000 years, growth and collapse of lava domes and generation of lahars have dominated Mt. Hood's eruptive activity.

When Mount Hood next erupts, Portland could be affected by light ash falls similar to those it experienced during the 1980 eruptions of Mount St. Helens. The city will not be directly affected by lava flows, pyroclastic flows, or lahars, but regional transportation and water supplies could be disrupted.

(ref. U.S. Mint and US Geological Survey website)

★ ★ ★

Birthplace of Numismatic News

[by Jeff Reichenberger #1933]

On Saturday, October 2nd, at 2 p.m. a ceremony was held to unveil a Historical Marker honoring Chet Krause and Numismatic News. The ceremony took place on the grounds of the Iola Historical Society in conjunction with the annual "Lost Arts Fair and Taste of Norway" festival.

The marker, which measures approximately 2 feet by 3 feet, will be placed at Chet's family home where he started Numismatic News on the dining room table. The marker tells the story on both sides and reads as follows:

"BIRTHPLACE OF NUMISMATIC NEWS"

"The first issue of 'Numismatic News' was born here Oct. 13, 1952. From this start over the next 50 years grew Krause Publications, a business that published 50 periodicals and hundreds of book titles.

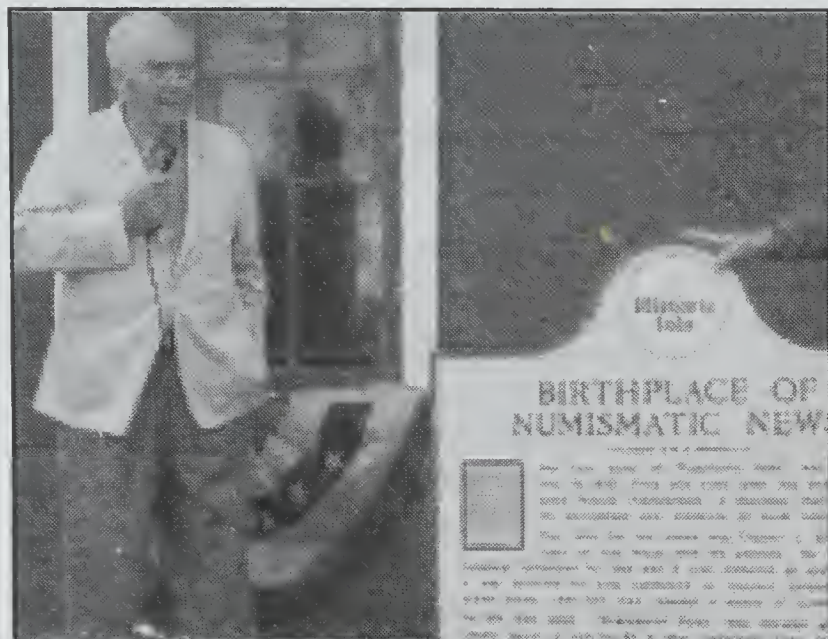
The idea for the paper was Chester L. Krause's who lived in this house with his parents. He was a professional carpenter by day and a coin collector at night. Because it was difficult for coin collectors to interact outside the main urban areas, Chet felt they needed a means of communication.

To fill that need, 'Numismatic News' was created as a monthly trader paper. It sold for \$2 a year. Collectors could run classified ads and buy and sell with each other by mail. In early 1954, after incurring a cumulative loss of about \$1342.00, the paper began to generate a profit. Work that had been done here on the dining room table was moved into rented office space downtown.

By 1957, Chet had to choose between his profession and publishing 'Numismatic News'. He chose the paper. He built a modern building to house it at the corner of Washington and Water Streets. He built his last house in 1958.

While always containing tidbits of information, 'Numismatic News' took on a full-fledged newspaper approach in 1959. Tom Fruit was hired as the first professional editor.

The number of pages grew steadily and the frequency was increased to 24 times a year in 1959 and then to 26 in 1963. It became a weekly in 1969."



Chet Speaks at the Historical Marker Unveiling

Stepping up to the microphone on the deck of the old train depot, Chet said "It's hard for me to talk about something historic that I am a part of because I always thought history was something that happened before you were born... but I am very proud to be a part of this and proud that the Historical Society is including Numismatic News in its Historical Marker Program".



The Historical Marker Program is an ongoing project of the Iola Historical Society, according to Greg Loescher, Chairman of the Historic Iola Marker Program. This marker is the third in what will be a series of approximately 10 markers that will be placed around the greater Iola area. The Historical Society envisions the marker program as one of the highlights of historical Iola with an eventual 'walking tour' of the markers with map and tourist information.



Chet's former home at the corner of Iola and Jackson Streets in Iola, where the Historical marker will be placed.

It was an enjoyable day in Iola. This reporter was particularly fond of Chet's, as usual, humble words. When you think about it, he literally invented the numismatic precursor to the Internet. Connecting collectors was his idea 40 years before the Internet was born, and for which we now take for granted to meet and mingle with other collectors. Thank you Chet, for your insight and ambition some 58 years ago!

To end the day, I took in some of the arts and crafts of the area folks -- and never one to let a whiff of food go uninvestigated, I wandered over to the 'Taste of Norway' area where ladies were making Norwegian delicacies such as Rosettes, Krumkake, Sandbakkels and handmade caramels. On the way home I felt satisfied, in a chubby sort of way, while I whistled Norwegian folk tunes.

* * *

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Hobo Nickels



[ref. Appalachian History website
& Original Hobo Nickel Society]

It's unclear exactly when hobos were alienated on the American railroading scene. With the end of the American Civil War in the mid 19th century, many soldiers returning home took to hopping freight trains. Others looking for work on the American frontier followed the railroads westward aboard freight trains in the late 19th century.

The population of hobos increased greatly during the Great Depression of the 1930s. With no work and no prospects at home, many decided to travel for free via freight trains and try their luck elsewhere. In so doing they would stop along the way.

Coin collectors today consider the Hobo nickel a numismatic treasure, a tribute to long-forgotten folk artists who often literally carved for their supper. The Buffalo nickel debuted in 1913, but it wasn't until the Great Depression struck that hobo nickel carving reached its peak. During this period, Buffalo nickels were the most common nickels in circulation.

They don't have the attractive glitz of Commemorative Gold or the intriguing antiquity of a Colonial coin. They are not struck off any mint of the U.S. Treasury, and yet they are arguably more deeply rooted in Americana culture than any other coin. These "hobo nickels," so-called because they were born out of the creatively economical, wandering hobos of the early part of the 20th century.

Certainly some coins were carved to fill the idle hours. More importantly, a "knight of the road," with no regular source of income, could take one of these plentiful coins and turn it into a folk art piece, which could in turn be sold or traded for small favors such as a meal or shelter for a night.

The nickel was an ideal coin from which to fashion such a token. The large profile of the Indian on one side and the classic image of the very wide American bison that complemented it on the reverse side provided an adequately sized canvas for the wandering hobo artist to use. It was portable, and the nickel (a copper-nickel alloy) is the hardest U.S. coin in circulation, ideal for carving.

In a community of generally anonymous drifters, two carvers rose to prominence among hobo nickel creators. Bertram "Bert" Wiegand was born in 1880 and carved from 1913 to 1949. He signed his coins by removing L, I and Y from LIBERTY, leaving only B E R T. He tutored the man coin collectors consider the giant of hobo nickel carving: George Washington "Bo" Hughes (born between 1895 and 1900 in Theo, Mississippi). Bert met the young teenager in a jungle, or hobo camp, along the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad line, and Bo's first nickels appeared two years later, in 1915. Bo carved until about 1980, when he was last seen by his friend of 40 years, Williard Chisolm, in a Florida camp.

Life as a hobo took its toll: the rigorous manual labor Bo undertook to survive during the money-tight, poverty-ridden 30's rendered his hands stiff and permanently damaged. Frequent beatings by ruthless detectives prowling railroads (where many hobos resided) in search of freeloaders and thieves compounded his dexterity impairment.

Nevertheless, devoted to his craft, Bo worked through the pain and frustrating impediments throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s, but in 1957, while he was working on a nickel, his chisel suddenly slipped and struck



Photo from Appalachian History website

his hand. The injury forced the once-great hobo nickel engraver to resort to a haphazard punching method. Bo continued his work, but with less frequency and diminished quality, and as America moved into the post-war era genuine hobo nickels became a thing of the past. The U.S. Mint ceased striking Buffalo nickels in 1938.

The Indian has been changed into clowns, women, other Indians, friends and loved ones, bearded men, ethnic figures, famous people, and self portraits.

The years of its reign, 1913 to 1938, takes us through some of the most memorable period in the history of the United States.

Dues are only \$15 for 1 year (or 3 years for \$42, or 5 years for \$65). Associate members (same household, share all mailings) and Junior members (under age 19) \$7.50/year. Life Membership is \$250.

Members receive their quarterly journal "BoTales" and an annual auction catalogue. Each issue of BoTales contains news, illustrated articles on hobo nickels and the artists who made (or currently make) them, articles on hobo history and related collectibles (i.e. old hobo postcards and modern struck hobo tokens), historic old hobo cartoons, etc.

Visit the OHNA website, www.hobonickels.org/intro.htm for more information.

* * *



Original Hobo Nickel Society

Many token and exnumia collectors are also members of the "Original Hobo Nickel Society (OHNS) -- We all share an appreciation for these Hobo nickels -- Each is unique as they were individually hand-carved pieces that combine the fields of numismatics, folk art and history. The Indian head nickel is one of the most admired of all U.S. coins. Its design is true Americana!

Early Banking in Montello, Wisconsin

{by Tom Snyder #2700}

Marquette County 1856-1860
formerly from Herb & Martha Schingoethe
Collection, Chet Krause collection)

The Kelsey Family (from the History of Montello,
Wisconsin).

The Kelsey family was a well-known and influential family of Western New York. William H., the eldest brother, was a lawyer of eminence, who served as District Attorney and Surrogate of Livingston County, Oswego, New York for a considerable time, and was also a member of Congress from New York for four terms. He died May 18, 1879 leaving a wife and daughter.

Edwin B. Kelsey grew up in his native county and received a good English education. He learned the trade of a printer and was afterward foreman in the Daily Advertiser office in Rochester, New York for several years. Soon after attaining his age of majority, he came to Wisconsin, locating in Prairieville (now Waukesha) where he studied law and was admitted to the bar.

On the third day of July, 1851, the village plat of Montello was surveyed by Henry Menton and the Hon. G.H. Benton who became later Governor of Iowa. Edwin B. Kelsey and Henry S. Crandell became the proprietors of the new village. Since that time, Mr. Kelsey has been prominently identified with the interests of the village and county. He was a man of marked ability and was elected to the Wisconsin Legislature as a Democrat in 1851, serving two sessions. In 1855 he was elected to the State Senate and in both houses proved to be an able and faithful officer.

His older brother, Charles, arrived in Montello in 1854 and the brothers established a grist mill on property owned by Edwin. In 1856 they established the Bank of Montello with Edwin B. Kelsey, president and Charles S. Kelsey, as cashier.

This one dollar bank note of issue portrayed the vignette of Liberty and Justice above center and the then current Democratic president James Buchanan at the left. Below center is the appropriate badger and Wisconsin seal at right. The brother's signatures once graced this bill, but have long since faded. It is the only survivor known from the bank's circulation. The state treasurer



should still be holding a dollar to redeem this note. Edwin died from consumption in Montello in February 1861, leaving a widow and three children. His family afterward moved to California in 1867 remaining there with the exception of the youngest daughter who became a resident of Buffalo, New York.

Charles S. Kelsey was born in Perry, New York, October 7, 1822. Like his two brothers, learned the trade of a printer in his youth and for some time was employed on the force of the Livingston Republican in Geneseo, New York, and later worked at his trade in the city of Rochester. Abandoning that occupation, he was working in an iron foundry until his migration to Montello in September 1854. In the company of his brother they built the first flouring mill which was completed in 1855 and in 1856 opened the bank. The banking business was sold and removed to Princeton after Edwin's death.

The very successful mill was operated by the brothers until Edwin's death and by Charles until 1870. Charles' wife Lucretia having passed away in 1869. They were the parents of three sons and a daughter. One son went to southern California, another became a successful lawyer in Geneseo, New York and the daughter, Julia, became a teacher and the post-mistress of Montello.

Charles then joined Benjamin Hall and organized the Wisconsin Industrial Association, and erected the woolen mill in Montello. Charles also served four years as an anti-slavery Republican State Senator, covering the trying years when the Civil War was in progress and also was a member of the General Assembly in 1867, 1873 and 1880. He was also Deputy Warden of the State Penitentiary at Waupun, from December 1869 until October 1871. He was a commissioner of the first war draft in 1862. He filled the office of County Superintendent of Schools of Marquette County from January 1887 to January, 1889. He then ran the Indian Agency in Keshena, Wisconsin from

1890 to 1893. As a legislature, he was true to his convictions and labored for the best interests of the people in general. He ranked high in business circles as a fair and honest entrepreneur, possessing judicious management skills. He was esteemed by all as a worthy, upright and honorable citizen. All of the Kelsey family members are buried in their family plot at Geneseo, New York.

* * *

Will You Ever Sell Your House?

[e-mail from Tom Casper]

Did you know that if you sell your house after 2012 you will pay a 3.8% sales tax on it? That's \$3,800 on a \$100,000 home, etc. When did this happen?

It's in the health care bill.... just thought you should know.

SALES TAX TO GO INTO EFFECT 2013 (Part of Health Care Bill) -- REAL ESTATE SALES TAX.

So this is "change you can believe in"??

Under the new health care bill, did you know that all real estate transactions will be subject to a 3.8% Sales Tax?

The bulk of these new taxes won't kick in until 2013. If you sell your \$400,000 home, there will be a \$15,200 tax.

This bill is set to screw the retiring generation who often down-size their homes. Does this stuff make your 2012 vote more important?

Oh, you weren't aware this is in the Obamacare bill? Guess what, you aren't alone. There are more than a few members of Congress that aren't aware of it either www.gop.gov/blog/10/04/08/obamacare-flatlines-obamacare-taxes-home.

I hope you tell every person you know.

* * *

Tokens From Unknown Wisconsin Places

(Dreux Watermolen #1755)

Part of the fun engendered by finding a “new” token is that of pinpointing its place of issue on a map. Knowing its origin adds to our appreciation, aids our research, and ultimately enhances our understanding of its use. In the case of larger cities, this poses little problem, although street addresses on older tokens sometimes reflect obsolescence (e.g. urban renewal efforts, business ventures and failures, changing demographics, and fires, floods, tornadoes, and similar disasters have sometimes resulted in relocations of buildings and infrastructure).

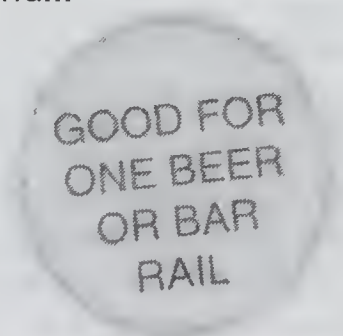
In the predominantly rural Midwest, the locale of a new find frequently proves to be a mere speck at a crossroad, often with a rustic or agrarian flavored name. Occasionally, even the most detailed maps will not reveal the slightest trace of a community identified on a token, thus making an attribution more difficult. Such is the case with a couple of plastic “good for” pieces among my collection of Wisconsin tokens.

The Ricke Lake Token

The first is a 28mm, round, yellow token with red printing that reads “JOANI’S/RICKE LAKE/WIS.” on the obverse and...



*Token from Ricke Lake,
Wisconsin*



“GOOD FOR/ONE BEER/
OR BAR/ RAIL” on the
reverse.

Where is Ricke Lake?

A search of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names website yielded no results for Ricke Lake. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources lists no Ricke Lake (or Lake Ricke) in its guides to Wisconsin lakes. A review of post office directories failed to turn up Ricke Lake and inquiries to staff at the Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey produced similar results. Thus, the actual location of Ricke Lake remains a mystery to me.

One possibility is that the name applies to a small “community” that has not been named formally, but which is well enough known by the local customer base that the business could comfortably use Ricke Lake on its tokens. Another possibility is that Ricke Lake is associated with a private development (e.g. a gated community, country club or golf course) where its customers would readily recognize the name. My suspicion, however, is that this is an error token.

Should Ricke Lake actually be Rice Lake? A bar and restaurant named “Joani’s” does operate on Marshall Street just west of North Main Street in Rice Lake (note, one ad claims that while Joani’s drinks “may be cheaper, they’re definitely not weaker”). I have yet to inquire about this establishment’s use of tokens or assess its advertising claim.

The Sugar Token

The second token is a 28 mm, round, orange token with a black inscription that reads “MOONDANCE/ BAR & GRILL/ SUGAR, WI” on the obverse and “GOOD FOR ONE /(beer bottle) /BEER” on the reverse.

My search of the U.S. Geographic Names website turned up the towns of Sugar Camp (Oneida County) and Sugar Creed (Walworth Co.) and populated places called Sugar Bush (Brown and Outagamie Cos.), Sugar Grove (Vernon Co.), and Sugar Island (Dodge Co.),



Token from Sugar,
Wisconsin



as well as several lakes, streams, summits and valleys with "Sugar" in their names. However, it yielded no Wisconsin place solely with the name Sugar. Searches of modern atlases, review of U.S.G.S. maps, and inquiries at the Historical Society and Geological and Natural History Survey also failed to uncover any place named Sugar.

A 1971 Wisconsin Post Office Handbook lists a Sugar post office for Green County. A later edition of this guide, however, points out that this post office (established May 18, 1881 and discontinued August 5, 1881) may never have actually operated. This latter guide also notes that Sugar's location remains unknown. Searches of contemporary Green County plat maps, historical atlases and directors also failed to reveal the location of Sugar. (My guess is that it was located in the Town of Albany, near a branch of the Sugar River and the Illinois Central rail line.) Even if the location of this Sugar post office was ascertained, however, it might not matter for attributing the Moondance "good for" as this plastic token certainly was produced well after the existence of the post office.

As with Ricke Lake, the actual location of Sugar remains a mystery yet to be solved. It is possible (quite likely?) that this token comes from the Moon Dance Bar & Grill that opened along Highway 17 in Sugar Camp in 2000. Perhaps a trip for one of Moon Dance's "famous entrees, smokehouse ribs, tavern battered shrimp or prime rib" is in order.

Can You Help?

Neither of these tokens has been listed in the reference books dealing with Wisconsin plastic tokens. If other collectors know the location of either Ricke Lake or Sugar or have information on either of the establishments mentioned on the tokens, I would appreciate learning from them. The smallest lead could help uncover these places that appear to have never been. You may e-mail me at djsantiques@yahoo.com or phone 608-347-8910.

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The Unpleasantness at Mount Pleasant

[By Gene Johnson #L-105]

**“Not all criminals are
in our prisons, and not
all confined therein are
criminals”**

Charles C. Leigh 1860

In our “enlightened” time-frame of the century 2000, a huge controversy exists concerning crime punishment in its many diverse levels and complicated forms.

The incarcerated have outgrown detention facilities at the city, county, state and federal levels, not so much by population growth, but a combination of moral decay and laws created to counter the moral decline.

What has resulted today are two opposing camps of thought... one decrying rampant lawlessness; the other punishment reform. Much of the anguish in Wisconsin is caused by monetary concerns, the thirty to fifty thousand dollar per year cost of each incarceration. The struggle is not new.

Late in the fall of 2008, a book that was part of the Agnar and Hubert Wahlberg collection of prison exnumia came into my possession. Authored in 1860 by the Reverend John Luckey, chaplain of the Mount Pleasant New York facility near the village of Sing Sing, the biographic format publication reveals the early 1800 era stirrings of criminal deterrence.

The book’s introduction and first three chapters describe the New York prisons of the period 1800-1860, a very harsh time in history to be incarcerated. Chapters 4



through 25 recount John Luckey’s prison reform interaction with prisoners, as well as religious conversions. Among the chapter titles are: “A Vagrant Boy’s Story,” “Poor Jack, the Converted Negro,” and “Letters from Discharged Convicts.”

Long before the state of Wisconsin existed, back in the year 1818, in New York state a new prison was being built to deal with that state’s most hardened criminals. The “Old New York”

prison was overflowing, and “Auburn state Prison,” a solitary confinement prison was being built to house the incorrigible.

In 1821, 80 convicts were transferred to the Auburn solitary confinement prison, and within a year, five had died, and another gone insane. Author Luckey wrote: “The failure of this experiment in solitary confinement endangered the success of the whole prison system.” Two years later solitary confinement was abandoned at Auburn, and replaced by a combination of single cells and hard labor in absolute silence (considered firm and fair) bringing us to the year 1824.

Prisons in the “new world” had been patterned after the dungeons of mid-evil Europe, seeking punishment with sever discipline. In this time frame, American convict violations of prison rules “was by the infliction of stripes on their naked backs with a cat.” (cat “O” nine tails whip).

Most of the prisoners were of the poor, many illiterate, and no effort was made during imprisonment to teach them. Absolute silence was imposed, no communication of any kind was allowed between prisoners and no contact with relatives or friends verbal or by letter.

The new Auburn prison soon became over crowded, so one hundred prisoners were selected to hand BUILD a new prison near the

New York state villages of Sparta and Sing Sing.

As strange as prisoners building their own prison sounds, it was cost effective, and many of the incarcerated were workers skilled with wood and stone. Construction began in 1825 and by May of 1828 there were 800 cells ready. Mount Pleasant was born, and the venerable "Old New York" prison was closed. It was 12 years later, in 1839, that the book's author, Chaplain John Luckey, began his life's work of compassionate reform of this prison, and all future prisons as an end result.

At this time only two written tracts were available to New York prisoners – the Bible and the Protestant Episcopal prayer book. Perhaps books were deemed unnecessary, since many inmates were totally or semi-illiterate.

In 1840, New York Governor W.H. Seward, at the urging of Chaplain John Luckey, appointed D.L. Seymour as warden of Mount Pleasant prison, and this marked a much less stringent discipline routine at the prison. Much to the surprise of the scoffers, escape attempts declined sharply, as the more modest punishment came into use.

The new warden weeded out the keepers (guards) who most severely punished the prisoners (which was discretionary at the time) and often mean spirited. John Luckey writes of past discipline: "Other convicts have been disabled from severe scourging, and have been sent to the hospital to be cured; and even in that sanctuary, it seems, does not always prove a protection from the cat; for it is sufficiently proved that some, who were at the time on the sick list and detained in the hospital, have been stripped and flogged."

Warden Seward created a library as well, however, the legislature did not allot moneys for this project, and it was John Luckey who purchased the books for the library with his own personal funds... (\$300 was a huge expenditure in 1835).

Gradually the new warden and Luckey lobbied the prison board for expanded teaching courses to John Luckey's Sunday School classes, and elementary learning was offered for the first time to the illiterate and poorly educated New York prisoners. By the end of the highly successful chaplainship of John Luckey in 1856, Mount Pleasant (now known as Sing Sing Prison) held 885 men and 85 women.

Of these prisoners, 263 were teen age (ages 15-19) and that this prison population was largely poor and little educated is indicated by over 500 inmates that were learning reading, writing and ciphering.

It's interesting to note that in today's maximum prisons, using the 1834 pattern, incorrigible prisoners are solitary confined for 23 hours, but by law now allowed to use an exercise room one hour each day. However, unlike 1834, mail exchange, literature and limited television are now provided.

Prison Tokens

There is no record of prison tokens being used in any prison prior to the Civil War, since as the Luckey book reveals, there were no canteen stores where prisoners could



*Ossining NY
Sing Sing Prison token
5, 10, 25, 50*

purchase materials.-- this was to happen much later in prison history.



The meaning of "MWL" may refer to the expression "sent up the river" referring to criminals convicted in New York City being sent up the Hudson River to Sing Sing.



*Ossining, NY - Sing Sing Prison \$1 Series C
Undated.*

This is a fascinating piece of prison scrip with the slogan "Do Good. Make Good" and it appears to be from the facility's heyday around the 1930s

The handsome and collectible Sing Sing tokens shown are from the post 1900 era, when an enlightened society, stirred by the pioneer work of chaplain John Luckey, sought less punishment and more reform.

Sing Sing tokens have been the source of numerous hobby writings in the numismatic press and are not considered rare.

* * *

Luther's Denunciation Found On Medallion Art

[from Coin World 1964]

This year's birthday celebration of the Lord Jesus seems, if possible, less Bethlehem-related than any other. Christmas has become more commercialized – TV spots, newspapers and department store promotions proclaim it, as Americans take off on an unprecedented spending binge.

If one is really fortunate, as he hurries through the jostling crowds in a city bent on stripping its merchants' counters in the last few remaining shopping days, he will hear the notes of a Christmas carol rising delicately and sifting through the dissonances that surround him.

"Away in the manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head..."

No mention is made in this tender carol of visions of sugar plums, electronic computers or Christmas coin shortages. These are the words penned by a father for his sleeping children, to tell in children's words the story of that Holy Night.

This was one of the smaller tasks that faced him on that night, however. Celebrating the Holy Birth was something of a preoccupation for the man who had carved out for himself the monumental assignment of effecting an essential rebirth of the awareness of Christ in the Church itself.

The time was in the 1530's. The father was a stolid German born of free peasant stock. His name was Martin Luther. His goal: To free Christianity of the political stagnation of an organized and secularized Church hierarchy and to restore the doctrine of faith in a gently and forgiving Christ to Christian dogma.

Luther, who had taken his vows as an Augustinian Friar in 1550, created a fissure that cracked the rock of St. Peter's in Rome

when the first blow of his hammer drove a nail into the door of the Castle church in Wittenburg in the year 1517, to display his 95 Theses there. The historic documents, which broadly attacked the practice of selling indulgences with which the church had been ridden, resulted in his excommunication by the Pope.

When ordered to recant his writings, at the Diet of Worms in 1521, Luther replied: "Unless I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture or by evident reason – for I confide neither in the pope nor in a council alone – I am held fast by the Scriptures as adduced by me, and my conscience is taken captive by God's Word, and I neither can nor will revoke anything."

This thundering denunciation of existing church doctrine touched off a spark which in the next century was to see the secular power of the Roman church broken in country after country, and to create in Europe's political atmosphere a vacuum which would collapse the ancient walls of feudalism and pave the way for human freedom.

It also unleashed an emission of medallic material which has continued over five centuries, in honor of the father who penned the simple word-picture of "The little Lord Jesus, asleep in the hay."

Martin Luther and those temporal princes and electors of the "Holy Roman Empire" who gave him succor, were first honored on actual coinages of the principalities over which they reigned.

Medals eventually succeeded these, as Lutheran's doctrine of salvation through the grace of God, rather than by the works of men, spread throughout the Christian world.

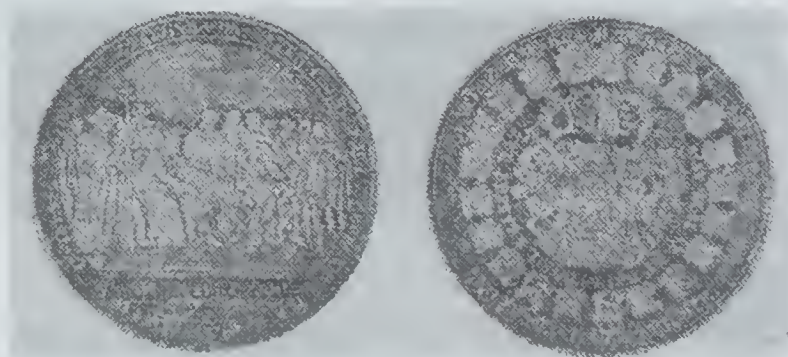
Illustrated are a few of these pieces, issued in commemoration of various events in Luther's life. They are presented not without the hope that the reader who views them will be inspired to give the day of His birth back to Christ, even as Martin Luther worked to give His Church back to Him.



In 1917, on the fourth centennial of the Reformation, this portrait medal of Luther in bronze, with Wartburg castle where he was provided refuge on the reverse, was issued in Austria.



Modern simplicity is revealed in medal commemorating fourth centenary of Augsburg Confession, struck in Berlin in 1930. Large 68 millimeter metal features a fine portrait of Luther, Legend surrounding clasped hands, translated, means simply: God help me.



Medals marking third century of the Augsburg Confession in 1830 was the work of George Loos and C.P. Pfeuffer, issued in Saxony. Reverse shows arms of various representatives at the Diet of Augsburg in 1530. Edge lettering reads: "WERT VON EINEM IOACHIMS THALER (valued at one Joachimsthaler). In design and execution it is considered one of Europe's finest of this period.



Silver medal by P.P. Werner, adjudged one of the most striking of the Reformation medals, depicts the Diet at Augsburg, where Luther's profession of faith was heard, on the reverse was struck at Nuremberg, Germany in 1730, the 200th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession.



The first centennial of the Reformation was commemorated by Duke John George I of Saxe-Altenburg in 1617 with the striking of a thaler (top) picturing John George on the obverse and his ancestor, Frederick III, who championed Luther, on the reverse. Broad thaler, bottom, 44 millimeters in diameter, issued in 1630, marks centennial of Luther's Augsburg Confession.

* * *

New Year Celebrated with Visits to Homes

On New Year's Eve millions of television viewers around the world will watch the ball drop in Times Square. But how did people celebrate the New Year before electricity and mass media?

In frontier Wisconsin, New Year's Day was the time for gift-giving, rather than Christmas. French-Canadian pioneers exchanged presents and visited each other's homes. After English-speaking Yankees arrived in the 1820s, exchanging presents gradually shifted to Christmas but calling on homes remained a New Year's tradition. New Year's Eve was a day to wipe the slate clean, forgive past offenses and begin relationships anew.

At the start, residents called on every house in town. But as populations grew this became impossible, so callers (mostly young men) compiled lists of homes that were open (mostly those with young women). "In parties of two, three or four we started out," one Milwaukee man recalled of the 1860s. "A list of about 20 young ladies was made for the day. These were called on in turn. From 10 to 20 minutes we conversed, played and sang, and tasted of the family beverages."

"The calls were necessarily of brief duration," one Madison man remembered of New Year's Eve 1851. "But, however short the call, the refreshment table was never ignored." This typically offered coffee, cold turkey, doughnuts, cake and mince pie.

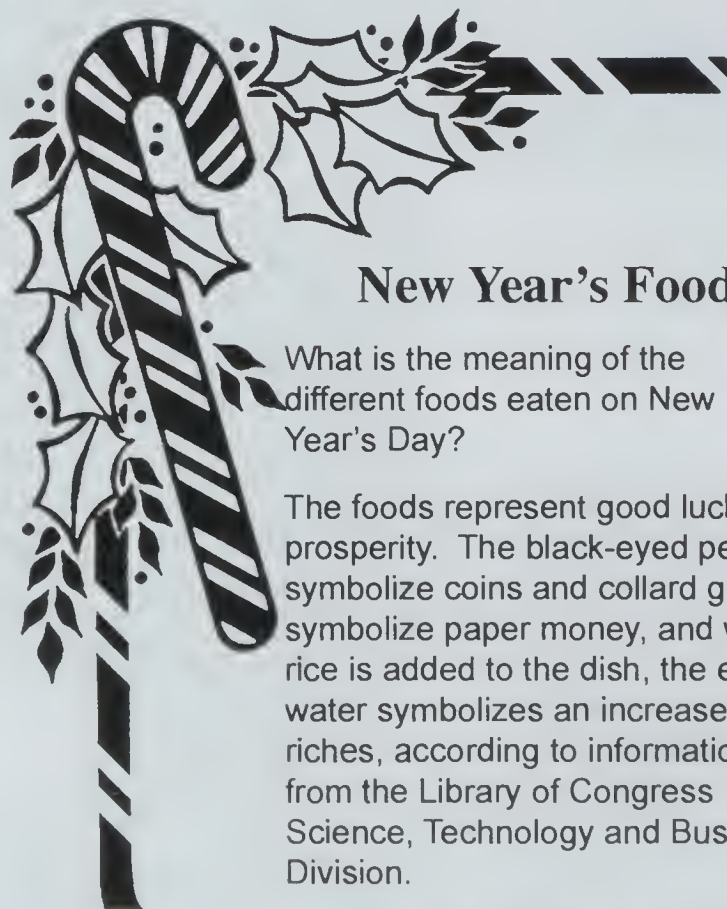


*New Year Day
greeting card depicting a boy and
girl ice skating.*

That evening, people of all ages flocked to public balls featuring multi-course dinners and dancing into the night.

The following morning, young friends often embarked on day-long sleigh-rides into the countryside, snuggling together under mounds of blankets and hay.

[Wisconsin State Historical Society]



New Year's Food

What is the meaning of the different foods eaten on New Year's Day?

The foods represent good luck and prosperity. The black-eyed peas symbolize coins and collard greens symbolize paper money, and when rice is added to the dish, the extra water symbolizes an increase of riches, according to information from the Library of Congress Science, Technology and Business Division.

Researchers with the Library of Congress also say pork symbolizes moving into the future because of how a pig roots forward.

A Holiday Tradition to Break -- Overspending --

[internet MNS Money]

It's tempting to overspend during the holiday season. While the average consumer plans to pay off holiday bills in 3 months, the true time frame is more like 6 months, reports Myvesta, a consumer-education organization in Rockville, MD.

Why do so many consumers fall short of their goals?

For starters, it's easy to get caught up on the material trappings of the holiday season. It's a challenge to stay focused on such mundane things as a spending budget, but it's essential. Without a self-imposed holiday budget, it's too easy to spend freely.

While drawing up a Holiday Budget may sound "Scrooge-ish, the exact opposite can be true. Thinking about how you'd really like to celebrate the holiday can make the season more, not less, meaningful.

"The holidays are about expressing yourself and showing friendship. There are ways you can do that other than spending money," says Steve Rhode, co-founder of Myvesta.

Start planning well before the holidays. If you wait until the last minute, you won't have time to develop reasonably priced ideas or shop for deals.

First list the friends and family members with whom you typically exchange gifts. Then, decide if anyone can be cut. For instance, perhaps you can pick names within your family or agree not to exchange gifts with some friends.

Once you've whittled down your list, set a budget for each gift says Angie Zalewski, co-author of "Cheap Talk with Frugal Friends: Over 600 Tips, Tricks and Creative Ideas For Saving Money."

* * *



Christmas Goodies How Sweet They Are!

About 512 B.C. from what is now Iran, Emperor Darlus invaded what is now India, expanding his Persian Empire.

One of the treasures brought back to Persia was the fabulous luxury of sugar. Before sugar, the only sweet things were honey and fruits. Back then the taste of sweet was rare and nearly magical and this new sugar stuff could make just about anything sweet. It was powerful stuff.

By the 1600s, sugar was being traded as a rare and precious item in Venice where it sold for more than \$2,000 a pound in today's dollars.

In the late 1700s, King Louis XVI of France was spending tons of money on sugar for things like sugared nuts and his wife Marie Antoinette's favorite cake. Taxpayers got angry over the differences between rich and poor people and killed Louis and Marie in a bloody revolution.

[ref. Wisconsin State Journal]

* * *

Coin Show Information

(please print)

Show Information for _____ Coin Club

Coin Show Date(s) _____

Hours: _____

Location: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Number of Tables: _____

Show Contact

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

e-mail: _____

Show information

submitted by: _____ Phone: _____

Return to: Numismatists of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 155
Mazomanie, WI 53560

Coin Club Meetings

Barron County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 p.m. the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake.
Contact
Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in the basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Elgin IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 1st Wednesday at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Don Cerny, PO Box 561, S. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph. 847-888-1449.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811.
Phone 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets the 1st Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Intl. Bank Note Society - Midwest Chapter

Meets 1 p.m. at North Shore Library in Glendale.
www.mcfls.org/northshorelibrary.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 the 1st Tues. each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. (Alternate mtg. place at Gurnee Police Dept., 100 N. O'Plaine Rd.. Contact: George Efsen, 847-244-5160.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Alicia Ashman Branch of the Madison Public Library, 733 N. High Point Road. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone 414-282-8128.

www.milwaukeeenumismaticssociety.com.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 6:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at the Bay Family Restaurant corner of Military and 9th St. in Green Bay.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Sturtevant (across street from the old Amtrack Depot). Contact Bill Spencer 262-637-7766. (no July or Aug. mtg).

Richland Center Coin Club

Meets 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Bowling Alley. No meetings June/July/August. Contact Larry Schlafer 608-279-1182.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966. www.sscmke.org.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Ph: 262-542-5990. www.waukeshaco-inclub.com.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 6:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Schofield Coin & Hobby, 754 Grand Ave., Schofield, WI 54476. (June, July, Aug. mtg 3rd Tue.) Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437.

Gary's Coins & Stamps

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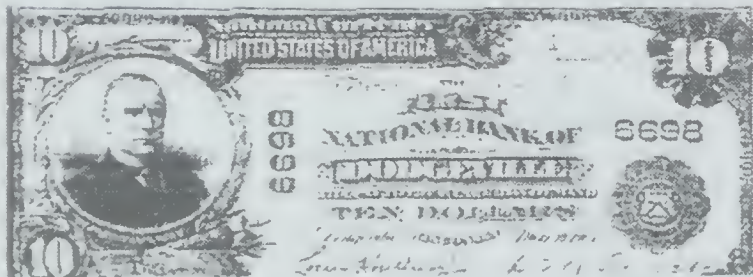
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(Trades also considered)

also buying tokens from SW Wisconsin

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NOW, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560



Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone number.

2011

February 20, 2011 - Numismatists of Wisconsin

The NOW show will be hosted by the Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC at their 28th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 pm. Contact Randy Miller, PO 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Phone: 920-231-6161. FAX: 920-231-6122.

February 27, 2011 - Racine

Racine Numismatic Society's Coin Show at the Roma Lodge, 7130 Spring St. Hwy. C, Racine. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Free admission and parking.

March 13, 2011 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 42nd Annual Coin Show at the American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th St., Brookfield, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 35 tables, \$1 admission. Contact: Tom Snyder, 801 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI 53188. Phone: 262-542-5990, e-mail: aluckypunch@aim.com.

March 17-19, 2011 - ANA

ANA National Money Show at Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, CA. Phone ANA Meeting Services 719-482-9826 or www.nationalmoneyshow.com.

March 27, 2011 - Gurnee, IL

Lake County Coin Club's 50th Annual Spring Show at Warren Township High School (O'Plaine Campus), 500 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, IL. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Free admission and parking.

March 27, 2011 - Springfield, IL

Central Illinois Numismatic Assoc. Annual Spring show at Northfield Inn, 3210 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL. Contact Steve Butler 217-528-7634.

April 3, 2011 - Madison

Madison Coin Club's 79th Annual Show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolan Drive, Madison,. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 50 tables. Contact Jim Essence, Jim's Coins, 702 N. Midvale, Madison, WI 53705 Phone: 608-233-2118.

April 3, 2011 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at Howard Johnson Inn & Conference Center, 2101 North Mountain Road (Hwy. 51 and NN, exit I-90) Wausau. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Contact Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St. Shofield, WI 54476. Phone 715-355-5437.

April 7-9, 2011 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's Show at the Wyndham Hotel Airport, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: Thur. 1-6 p.m, Friday 10-6 p.m., Sat. 10-4 p.m. Bourse contact Joe B. 414-327-6156, Show chm. Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

April 17, 2011 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 56th annual spring show at the Wave Bar (near Fox Cities Stadium), 2350 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 dealer tables. Contact: James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Phone: 920-739-1089.

April 27-30, 2011 - CSNS

Central States Numismatic Society 72nd Anniversary Convention at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Chm. Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

May 14, 2011 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin & Stamp Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls. Hours: 9-3:30 p.m., 40 tables. Show contact Ed Rautmann, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Phone 920-893-5864.

May 15, 2011 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 39 tables. Bourse chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph. 920-819-7294.

July 24, 2011 - IL

Central Illinois Numismatic Association Annual Summer Coin Show at Northfield Inn, 3210 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL. Contact Steve Butler, 17123 First Street, IL 62704. Phone 217-528-7634.

August 16-20, 2011 - ANA

ANA World Fair of Money at Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Chicago, IL. Phone ANA Meeting Services, 719-482-9826, www.money.org.

October 2, 2011 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's annual coin show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. \$1 admission. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 75 tables. Show chm. Tom Casper, 414-425-5444, tcasper57@hotmail.com.

October 13-15, 2011 - ANA

ANA National Money Show at David Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA. Phone ANA Meeting Services, 719-482-9826; www.money.org.

October 22, 2011 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin & Stamp Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls. Hours: 9-3:30 p.m., 40 tables. Shoe Contact: Ed Rautmann, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Phone: 920-893-5864.

2012

April 18-21, 2012 - CSNS

Central States Coin Show at Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL.

2012 - Numismatists of Wisconsin

To be hosted by the Madison Coin Club, Madison, WI.

2013

2013 - Numismatists of Wisconsin
at Sheboygan Falls.



Dues are Due!

Dues notices are enclosed with this newsletter. Please check your label and if you need to renew, send in \$10 no later than February 15th.

Dues received after February 15th might be too late to receive the Spring issue.

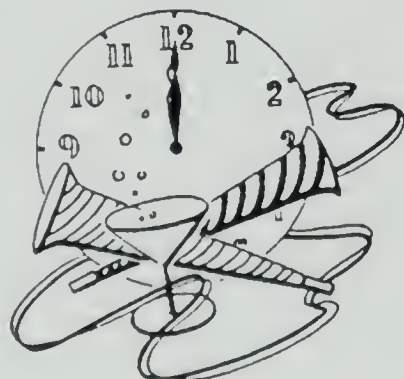
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